NeoPopRealism Journal

News Archives. January-February, 2009

February, 2009

48 People On Board And One Person On The Ground Are Dead

Thursday, February 2009, it was the 1st fatal crash of a commercial airliner in the U.S. in 2 1/2 years. Witnesses heard the twin turboprop aircraft sputtering before Continental Connection Flight 3407 went down in snow and fog around 10:20 p.m. Flames silhouetted the shattered home after plane plummeted into it around about 5 miles from Buffalo Niagara International Airport. The 74-seat Q400 Bombardier aircraft was operated by Colgan Air and flying from Newark Liberty International Airport in NJ. The plane preparing to land at Buffalo Niagara International Airport.There was no indication terrorism was involved. All indications are that this was an air-safety event.
The National Transportation Safety Board send a team of crash investigators to Buffalo Friday, February 13.
The voice of a female pilot on Continental Flight 3407 could be heard communicating with air traffic controllers, according to a recording of the Buffalo air traffic control's radio messages. Neither the controller nor the pilot showed any concerns that anything was out of the ordinary as the airplane was asked to fly at 2,300 feet...

A First-Class Stamp Will Rise To 44 Cents

The U.S. Postal Service announced February 10, that the price of a first-class stamp will rise to 44 cents on May 11. Forever Stamps will continue to sell at the current 42-cent rate until the increase occurs. They will remain valid in the future regardless of rate hikes. But even with the increases, the Postal Service continues to offer some of the lowest postage prices in the world. The overall change is tied to the rate of inflation in the year before. While the 44-cent rate covers the first ounce of first-class mail, the price for each additional ounce will remain unchanged at 17-cents. Postal officials estimate the increase will cost the average household $3-a-year. Buffeted by rising costs and declining mail volume, the Postal Service lost $2.8 billion last year and is headed toward much larger losses this year...

New Administration And Nuclear Weapons Reductions

The 1991 Strategic Arms Reduction Treaty expires at the end of the year. It limited the United States and Russia to 6,000 nuclear warheads each. The American stockpile is believed to be about 2,300 warheads, and the Russians' even lower.
The Obama administration is gearing up for early negotiations with Russia on a new treaty that would reduce stockpiles of nuclear warheads. Hillary Rodham Clinton has notified Congress and her staff that she intends to get started quickly on talks with the Russians, who have voiced interest in settling on a new treaty calling for cutbacks in arsenals on both sides.

Mac's Infection

As the Mac gains in popularity, it also earns attention from malware developers, and it's this lack of malware being actively developed, not some special, inherent security, that have really kept the Mac a "safe" platform for the time being.Now one of the 1st moderately-sized exploits to take advantage of Mac users. A Trojan Horse is an attack being distributed via Bit Torrent, where it's disguised as a bootleg copy of the new iWork 09. Once installed, the malware takes administrator access & connects to remote servers over the Internet. There it can be given additional instructions as the author commands, from installing additional malware to stealing information off the Mac in question. The malware creators can take complete remote control of any compromised machine.20,000 machines has been infected as of January 21. The risk of ongoing infection was serious. Users may face extremely serious consequences if they're stricken with the malware.Mac users are suggested to use common sense. If you're a Mac user and aren't using security software, this might be a good time to start.

Fuji's New Batteries

We should recycle the batteries. But we've all thrown them away, contributing to the toxic pollution. We're not going to throw EcoGeek's full weight behind any battery that isn't rechargeable, it is nice to see Fuji's new take on the battery.The EnviroMax batteries contain no mercury, cadmium or PVC. They're encased in plastic instead of steel. Fuji said that the batteries are 100% recycleable, and are safe for landfills. We'd like to know if they're awarded RoHS certification.Use rechargeable batteries, and to dispose of them correctly at the end of their useful lives.

NYC: US Airways Pilot Ditched His Jetliner Into The Hudson River

A US Airways pilot ditched his jetliner into the Hudson River on Thursday, Dec 15, afternoon after a collision with a flock of birds apparently knocked out both engines, but rescuers pulled all 155 people on board into boats as the plane sank.

Flight 1549 went down minutes after takeoff from LaGuardia Airport for Charlotte, N.C., splashing into the river near 48th Street in midtown Manhattan. There were eyewitness reports the plane may have flown into a flock of birds.

Passenger Jeff Kolodjay of Norwalk, Conn., said that he heard an explosion 2 or 3 minutes into the flight, looked out the left side of the Airbus 320 and saw one of the engines on fire. Kolodjay said tat the captain explained, `Brace for impact because we're going down' Kolodjay said passengers put their heads in their laps and started saying prayers, the plane hit the water pretty hard... It was intense. Pasenger said that they've got to give it to the pilot. He made a hell of a landing...

The Best Job in the World

An Australian state is offering internationally "the best job in the world" - earning 150,000 Australian dollars (105,000 US dollars) - it includes free airfares from the winner's home country to Hamilton Island on the Great Barrier Reef - for lazing around a beautiful tropical island for six months.

The "island caretaker" will be expected to stroll the white sands, snorkel the reef, take care of a few minor tasks - and report to a global audience via weekly photo diaries, blogs, and video updates.

The campaign was part of a drive to protect the state's 18 billion Australian dollar a year tourism industry during the tough economic climate (caused by the global financial meltdown).

Hilton, New York: 17th APAP: Timothy Mooney and His "Ego Trip"

One man theater... Timothy Mooney brings the world of 17th century playwright to life with his animated performance. With a costume, a series of wigs and a knack for the language, Mooney gives you a great idea of the conning, the boasting and masquerading... He has amazing energy, he makes people laugh, and you can feel like you have gone back in time.

Tim Mooney has written 16 great verse versions of Moliere's work, and most of them published by *Playscripts*, *Inc.* He has turned tens thousands of students on to the wonderful French Playwright in his play... He can be reached at *www.timmooneyrep.com*

The U.S. Postal Service is Reviewing Its City Routes

The U.S. Postal Service is reviewing its city routes nationwide and changing some of them to cut costs: mail volume is dropping during the recession. The changes are expected to affect as many as 50 million addresses on 85,000 urban routes. It should be pretty seamless to customers, except they could possibly see a difference in delivery times. The route reviews began last month and should be completed by the end of February. Some customers already may be seeing changes as parts of some routes are consolidated into others. Some letter carriers are saddened by the changes. Businesses have reduced mailings to cut expenses. Nationally, mail volume fell by 9.5 billion pieces, or 4.5 percent, during the fiscal year that ended Sept. 30.

Shutoff of Russian Gas Shipped Via Ukraine

6 countries reported a shutoff of Russian gas shipped via Ukraine on Tuesday. Bulgaria, Greece, Macedonia,

Romania, Croatia and Turkey reported a halt in gas shipments. Croatia said it was temporarily reducing supplies to industrial customers, Bulgaria said it had enough gas for only for a few days. The European Union in Brussels called the sudden cutoff completely unacceptable. In a strongly worded statement, the EU complained that that gas had been cut without prior warning and in clear contradiction with the reassurances given by the highest Russian and Ukrainian authorities to the European Union.

Steve Jobs is Okay

Apple Inc. founder and Chief Executive Steve Jobs, a survivor of pancreatic cancer, said today that a treatable hormone imbalance is to blame for his weight loss. Steve, 53, said in his public letter that his thinness had been a mystery even to him and his doctors until a few weeks ago. The "sophisticated blood tests" confirmed that he has a hormone imbalance that has been `robbing' his body of the proteins the body needs to be healthy. Steve Jobs will undergo a "relatively simple" treatment and will remain in charge of Apple.

Samsung: World's Slimmest TV

Samsung Electronics (South Korea) today, Monday, January 5, unveiled a production of the world's slimmest liquid crystal display TV. The new product, measuring only 0.26 inch thick, is thinner than any other existing TV set. It even slimmer than most mobile handsets. Its thickness is one seventh of Samsung's "Bordeaux 850" LCD TVs, which is currently the thinnest on the market. The new product, which adopts an LED - light emitting diode - backlighting system, will be on display at the 2009 Consumer Electronics Show in Las Vegas from January 8 to 11.

January 4, 2009: NeoPopRealism's 5th Anniversary

January 4th, 2003, Nadia Russ created word *NeoPopRealism* to describe the visual art style she created. Then, she formulated a NeoPopRealist visual art's concept:
NeoPopRealism combines brightness and simplicity of Pop Art with deep and philosophical realism, carries high energy colors and has graphic nature.
Since then, lots of things happened. Good things. *NeoPopRealism* was accepted by worldwide artistic community and art lovers, and was a base for many interesting and unique projects, such as, for example, the *NeoPopRealism Journal* & *Wonderpedia*.

Rare Bugatti For $8.7 Million

A rare Bugatti supercar wast in an English garage for half a century. Experts believe the car is the one of just a handful ever made. Now it could fetch as much as 6 million pounds (8.7million dollars) when it is auctioned at the Retromobile car show. This sale being organised by Bonhams in Paris in February, 2009. A surgeon Harold Carr, after buying it in the 1950s, apparently abandoned the car in his lock-up in Newcastle.When the reclusive Carr died in 2007, his nephew found the Type 57S Atalante and was amazed to know that just 17 of the model were ever made. It's worth so much because Harold Carr hasn't used it for 50 years. When it was built it could reach 130 miles (210 kilometres) per hour when most cars could only do 50.It is one of the original supercars.

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